

Message Text

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TO HODDING CARTER FROM PA/PRESS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, SOPN (VANCE, CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELLING PRESS SUMMARY, MORNING AUGUST 7

NO. 3

1-NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON POST -- HOAGLAND FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "THE DEEP DISTRUST THAT HAS MARKED AMERICAN-ISRAELI RELATIONS DURING MOST OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION LESSENED PERCEPTIBLY YESTERDAY AS ISRAELI PM BEGIN REPEATEDLY ASSURED SECSTATE VANCE THAT ISRAEL WOULD WORK WITH HIM TO GET PEACE TALKS WITH EGYPT RESUMED."

OTHER POINTS:

-ISRAELI LEADERS REMAIN WARY OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION
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INTENTIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST, BUT THEY DO NOT SEE PRESSURE FROM THE WHITE HOUSE AS AN IMMEDIATE THREAT.
-ISRAELI CONFIDENCE GROWS FROM THE PERCEPTION THAT SADAT HAS SACRIFICED HIS PEACEMAKER IMAGE.

-BEGIN AND DAYAN HAVE CAREFULLY NURTURED THE VIEW THAT ISRAEL IS COOPERATING COMPLETELY WITH THE VANCE EFFORT TO REVIVE THE SADAT INITIATIVE AND THAT THE OBSTACLE IS NOW EGYPT.
-BEGIN EUPHORICALLY CALLED HIS MEETING WITH VANCE

"THE BEST WE HAVE EVER HAD." THIS INDICATES THAT VANCE DID NOT ATTEMPT TO PRESSURE ISRAEL AND THAT HE DID NOT BRING AN AMERICAN PLAN. BEGIN SEEMED TO BE TRYING TO AVOID APPEARING NEGATIVE ABOUT ANYTHING HE DISCUSSED WITH VANCE.

-NEARLY HALF THE MORNING SESSION WAS CENTERED ON SOUTHERN LEBANON; SECSTATE WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE EMPHASIZED THE US HOPES FOR ISRAELI COOPERATION IN GETTING LEBANESE ARMY UNITS ESTABLISHED IN THE AREA.

-VANCE INDICATED YESTERDAY THAT HE MIGHT MEET WITH SADAT FOR ONE DAY ONLY AND RETURN TO WASHINGTON TUESDAY NIGHT RATHER THAN WEDNESDAY. HODDING CARTER SAID THAT WOULD DEPEND ON HOW MUCH THEY GOT DONE.

-HOAGLAND ALSO GIVES A REVIEW OF REPORTING IN THE ISRAELI PRESS.

NYT -- GWERTZMAN FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE AND PM BEGIN OF ISRAEL MET FOR MORE THAN FOUR HOURS TODAY IN WHAT THEY AGREED WERE .SERIOUS, GOOD AND USEFUL. TALKS."

OTHER POINTS:
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-A DECISION ON RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS AWAITS VANCE'S MEETING WITH SADAT.

-BEGIN WAS PLEASED THAT SADAT WAS BEING PERCEIVED AS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BREAKDOWN IN NEGOTIATIONS. BUT BEGIN STOOD FIRM ON PREVIOUS ISRAELI PROPOSALS THAT LED SADAT TO BREAK OFF THE NEGOTIATIONS. AND HE SAID THAT VANCE HAD NOT ASKED HIM TO CHANGE HIS POSITION.

-VANCE SAID HE SHARES BEGIN'S HOPE THAT THE TALKS COULD BE RESUMED, BUT HE REFUSED TO JOIN IN BEGIN'S EVALUATION THAT ALL DEPENDS ON SADAT.

-AMERICAN OFFICIALS SAID PRIVATELY THAT FOR A BREAK-THROUGH TO OCCUR, ISRAEL WOULD HAVE TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING ON WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK AND GAZA.

-AMERICAN OFFICIALS HAVE DISCUSSED AMONG THEMSELVES THE POSSIBILITY OF BEGIN AND SADAT COMING TO WASHINGTON TO MEET WITH CARTER SEPARATELY OR JOINTLY. CARTER HAS GIVEN VANCE HANDWRITTEN MESSAGES FOR BOTH LEADERS.

CSM -- SOUTHERLAND FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "THE MESSAGE FROM ISRAEL TO THE UNITED STATES IS THAT THE BALL IS NOW IN EGYPT'S COURT."

OTHER POINTS:
-THE ISRAELIS SAY THAT IT IS UP TO THE EGYPTIANS TO SOFTEN THEIR POSITION.

-THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT IS MUCH MORE FIRM, CONFIDENT AND SOLIDLY BASED THAN A FEW WEEKS AGO. EGYPTIAN ATTACKS ON BEGIN HAVE BACKFIRED AND RALLIED SUPPORT FOR BEGIN. BEGIN'S POSITION HAS ALSO BEEN STRENGTHENED BY SADAT'S TOUGHER NEGOTIATING POSITION.
-FORMER PM RABIN AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE ISRAELI PEACE MOVEMENT HAVE FOUND THE LATEST SADAT POSITION TOO EXTREME.
-ACCORDING TO SOME ISRAELIS, THE MOOD IN ISRAEL NOW UNCLASSIFIED

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IS ONE OF RESIGNATION TO THE DEATH OF THE SADAT INITIATIVE.
-VANCE APPARENTLY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE ISRAELIS OUGHT TO BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN THEIR POSITION ON WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. BUT HE DID NOT PRESS BEGIN ON THIS POINT.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS -- ANTEVIL FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE HELD A FULL DAY OF MEETINGS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS YESTERDAY, BUT HE APPARENTLY EMERGED WITH NOTHING NEW TO TAKE TO EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT."

OTHER POINTS:

-IN ALEXANDRIA TODAY VANCE WILL TELL SADAT THAT ISRAEL WANTS THE CURRENT PEACE INITIATIVE TO CONTINUE AND IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE WEST BANK AND GAZA FIVE YEARS AFTER A PEACE TREATY IS SIGNED. BUT BEGIN STILL REFUSES TO AGREE IN ADVANCE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE OCCUPIED AREAS.
-BEGIN AND DAYAN EMPHASIZED THAT ISRAEL WANTS TO CONTINUE THE FONMIN MEETINGS UNDER VANCE'S AUSPICES.
-THE ISRAELI RESPONSE TO SADAT'S LATEST MOVES IS TO BLAME SADAT FOR CALLING OFF THE TALKS.
-IN INFORMATION SHEETS DISTRIBUTED TO AMERICAN REPORTERS, THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT COMPLAINED THAT THE US HAS BEEN PUTTING HEAVIER PRESSURE FOR CONCESSIONS ON THE ISRAELIS THAN ON THE ARABS.

WASHINGTON STAR -- BRADSHER FROM JERUSALEM

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE TODAY ENDED TALKS WITH PM BEGIN- UNCLASSIFIED

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WHO STOOD CONFIDENTLY ON HIS NEGOTIATING POSITION WHILE POINTING AT EGYPT AS THE OBSTACLE TO PEACE TALKS - THEN FLEW TO ALEXANDRIA FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT."

OTHER POINTS:

-THE MEETING WITH SADAT IS THE KEY TO BREAKING THE STALEMATE. VANCE HOPES TO WIN AGREEMENT FOR ANOTHER FONMIN MEETING.

-VANCE NEITHER SOUGHT NOR RECEIVED ANY SIGNIFICANT NEW CONCESSIONS FROM BEGIN. THERE WAS HINT OF NEW PROCEDURAL IDEAS FROM BEGIN. BUT THE PM MADE IT CLEAR THAT ISRAEL'S SUBSTANTIVE POSITION IS UNCHANGED.

-A SUMMIT MEETING MIGHT BE THE ULTIMATE RESORT OF THE AMERICAN EFFORT TO AVOID COLLAPSE OF THE DIRECT TALKS.

WALL ST. JOURNAL -- NO HOUSE

2. WIRES

AP -- NO BYLINE FROM ALEXANDRIA

LEAD: "SECSTATE VANCE TOOK HIS MIDEAST PEACE MISSION TO EGYPT TODAY AFTER TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS. HE IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN FONMIN KAMEL ON PROSPECTS FOR RESUMING THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS."

OTHER POINTS:

-THE LENGTH OF THE STAY IN EGYPT WILL DEPEND ON THE PROGRESS MADE.

-VANCE TERMED HIS MEETINGS WITH BEGIN AS "USEFUL."

-VANCE SAID THE US PLANS TO PRESS AHEAD WITH ITS PEACE EFFORT.

BOTH UPI AND REUTERS REPORT ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN ALEXANDRIA. NEITHER HAS BYLINE.

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3. NETWORKS

NBC - VALERIANI FROM JERUSALEM

-SECRETARY VANCE PAID A COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT YITZAK NAVON BEFORE LEAVING. HE DID NOT HOLD ANOTHER MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AS ANTICIPATED, SINCE BOTH SIDES FELT THEY HAD COVERED ALL THE NECESSARY GROUND DURING FOUR AND HALF HOURS OF TALKS YESTERDAY. THERE WAS NO APPARENT

CHANGE IN THE ISRAELI POSITION WHICH HAS LED TO A DEADLOCK IN THE NEGOTIATION.

-FOREIGN MINISTER DAYAN ACCOMPANIED VANCE TO THE AIRPORT WHERE BOTH MEN AGAIN EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS WOULD SOON BE REVIVED.

-VANCE: AS FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED, WE SHALL PERSEVERE IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE. THERE IS NO MORE IMPORTANT CAUSE THAT WE CAN DEVOTE OUR EFFORTS TO.

-DAYAN: WE HAD VERY USEFUL AND GOOD TALKS HERE, AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD (UNCLEAR) TO HIS TALKS IN ALEXANDRIA. AND WE HOPE THAT AFTER THAT WE SHALL HAVE SOMEHOW AND SOME WAY THE CONTINUATION IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS. THANK YOU.

-VANCE THEN HEADED FOR ALEXANDRIA AND A CRUCIAL MEETING WITH EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT WHO HAD BROKEN OFF DIRECT TALKS WITH THE ISRAELIS UNTIL THEY COMMIT THEMSELVES TO THE PRINCIPLE OF GIVING BACK ALL OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORY. THE SECRETARY IS CARRYING A LETTER FOR SADAT FROM PRESIDENT CARTER, AND THERE'S SPECULATION THE UNITED STATES MAY PROPOSE A THREE-PARTY SUMMIT INVOLVING CARTER, SADAT AND BEGIN AS ONE WAY OF GETTING THE NEGOTIATIONS GOING AGAIN.

CBS RADIO - KALB FROM JERUSALEM.
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-THE ISRAELI MESSAGE TO VANCE CAN BE SUMMARIZED IN FOUR WORDS, - NEGOTIATIONS, YES CONDITIONS, NO. THAT IS, YES TO RENEWING FACE-TO-FACE TALKS WITH EGYPT, BUT NO TO PRESIDENT SADAT'S DEMAND FOR A PRIOR AGREEMENT BY ISRAEL TO RETURN ALL OCCUPIED ARAB LAND BEFORE SUCH TALKS COULD BEGIN.

-THE ISRAELIES EMERGED FROM THEIR SESSIONS WITH VANCE IN A RELIEVED MOOD. BEGIN LATER TOLD REPORTERS THE US HAD PUT NO PRESSURE ON ISRAEL TO CHANGE HER POSITION. THE ISRAELIS ALSO SEEMED RELIEVED BY WHAT THEY SEE AS A PARTIAL RESTORATION OF BALANCE IN THE US POSITION, LESS PRO-EGYPT, THAN IT WAS PERCEIVED HERE BEFORE SADAT HAD PUT A PRICE ON THE RESUMPTION OF PEACE TALKS. THE ISRAELIES ARE HOPING VANCE WILL TELL SADAT THAT, AS THE JERUSALEM POST PUT IT THIS MORNING, THE TIME HAS NOW COME FOR CAIRO TO SUPPLANT THE WAR OF NERVES BY SERIOUS ENGAGEMENT IN DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

ABC - SEAMANS FROM JERUSALEM

-THE WORD "USEFUL" WAS THE OPERATIVE CODE WORD AS VANCE LEFT FOR EGYPT. IT'S A POSITIVE SOUNDING WORD THAT MAKES NO COMMITMENT AND REVEALS EVEN LESS.

-VANCE: THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WE HAVE HAD HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT AND USEFUL. SO FAR AS THE UNITED STATES IS CONCERNED,

WE SHALL PERSEVERE IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE.

-DAYAN: WE HAD VERY USEFUL AND GOOD TALKS HERE, AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD WITH MUCH HOPE TO HIS TALKS IN ALEXANDRIA. AND WE HOPE THAT AFTER THAT WE SHALL HAVE SOMEHOW AND SOME WAY THE CONTINUATION IN THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS. THANK YOU.

-ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE ISRAELI POSITION, VANCE TAKES WITH HIM AN AGREEMENT FROM PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO CONTINUE THE PEACE TALKS IF THERE ARE NO PRECONDITIONS.

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MR. VANCE WILL MEET PRESIDENT SADAT LATER TODAY TO LAUNCH
THE SECOND STAGE OF HIS RESCUE MISSION, AND HOW MUCH MR.
VANCE CAN SAVE OF THE PEACE TALKS IS NOW UP TO PRESIDENT
SADAT'S ANSWER.
CHRISTOPHER

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